



James "Jim" Fredrick Gifford

April 8, 1933 - February 3, 2019

James F. Gifford, 85, passed away February 3rd, 2019.

A Memorial Mass will be held 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, February 12th, 2019 at St Joseph Catholic Church, 302 5th St SE, Mason City, IA with Father Neil Manternach, celebrant. Burial will be in Calvary Cemetery in Charles City at a later date.

A visitation will be held at 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Monday February 11th 2019, at Hogan Bremer Moore Colonial Chapel, 126 3rd St. NE, Mason City, IA. A Scriptural Wake Service will be held at 6:30 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to Hospice of North Iowa and/or Alzheimer's Association or a charity of your choice.

James Fredrick Gifford was born to George and Maxine (Carroll) Gifford, April 8th, 1933 in Charles City, Iowa. He was graduated from Charles City High School in 1951. Jim was working at Lindeman Dairy in 1953 when he was drafted into the Army and sent to South Korea. He took great pride in his service to the country as a veteran.

Upon completion of his military duty in 1955 he returned to Charles City and married Theresa Dasch, daughter of John and Mabel Dasch of Rudd, Iowa. They were married at Holy Family Church in Mason City on June 18, 1955. After working a short time at the Oliver tractor plant in Charles City Jim started his life long connection and employment with the Northwestern Bell Telephone Company. He started climbing telephone poles as a lineman, moved through the ranks as an installer, test board operator, and then supervisor. He held the position of area President of the Communication Workers of America. Jim and Terry moved from Charles City to Osage and then Mason City early in his career. On May 28th, 1968, Jim was set to start his new position as manager of the Charles City office. That was the same day a tornado tore through Charles City. From a central office that had been partially destroyed, Jim was responsible for re-establishing communications in the devastated area. He would retire as Area District Manager in 1992. Jim was a generous and loving son, brother, husband, father and friend. He enjoyed hunting and teaching firearms and firearm safety to his two boys. He enjoyed competing in fast pitch softball back in its heyday and was an accomplished pitcher. He enjoyed following his Iowa State Cyclones and all the fun that entailed with his family and friends. He loved playing golf with his wife and friends. Jim especially enjoyed his self-appointed

role as promoter during his annual trip in March to Biloxi Mississippi for his 'St Pat's Open' golf tournament. He would drag all his buddies along, set the itinerary, make up crazy trophies, and have great adventures and stories to tell upon his return. Jim believed in giving back to the community. He was active with the Kiwanis, Elks Club, and Boy Scouts of America. Upon his retirement Jim maintained his relationship with his many friends and coworkers of the Northwestern Bell Telephone Company by working with retirees through the Telephone Pioneers. He enjoyed installing and maintaining their various flowerbeds throughout Mason City. Jim loved collecting and restoring old phones. And golf, don't forget the golf.

Jim is survived by his wife Terry, daughter Melody Gifford (Tony) of Austin, Texas, son Michael Gifford of Center Point, Iowa, and sister Delores Haynes of Cedar Bluffs, NE. Also surviving are 6 grandchildren: Alex Sills of Austin, TX, Connor Gifford of Chicago, IL, Gus Gifford of Austin, TX, Grayson Gifford of Iowa City, IA, Steven Gifford of Omaha, NE, and Daniel Gifford (Sam) of Indianola, IA and a great-granddaughter, Tristin Gifford.

Additionally, he is survived by his sister in-laws Nancy Wasicek and Camilla Ent and brother in-law Gary Dasch (Jan) and several nieces and nephews.

Jim was preceded in death by his parents, son Jamey, grandson Nathan Sills, brothers in law Phillip Dasch and Sonny Dasch.

Hogan-Bremer-Moore Colonial Chapel. 126 3rd St. NE, Mason City, IA 50401. (641) 423-2372. ColonialChapels.com

Cemetery

Events

Calvary Cemetery

Charles City, IA,

FEB **Memorial Visitation** 05:00PM - 07:00PM

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Hogan Bremer Moore Colonial Chapel
126 3rd St NE, Mason City, IA, US, 50401

FEB **Memorial Mass** 10:30AM

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Epiphany Parish - St. Joseph Catholic Church
300 5th St. S.E., Mason City, IA, US, 50401

Comments



“ So sorry to hear of Jims passing...he was a school mate of my grandfathers and just a few years ago came in to see my grandfather at my restaurant and brought his old high school year book....made my grandfathers day...

laura dakin - February 12 at 11:50 AM



“ 142 files added to the album LifeTributes



Hogan Bremer Moore Colonial Chapels - February 11 at 12:34 PM



“ Terry --

Our sympathy to you and your family at this time of loss. You are all in our thoughts and prayers.

Fran Oldham and Family

Frances Oldham - February 10 at 04:17 PM



“ To Terry and Family, Our condolences to you all. Jim was always considered a fine telephone man and an all-around good guy. He will be missed by many. Our thoughts and prayers go out to you at this time. Don and Dorothy Wilson, Waukee, IA.

Donald M Wilson - February 08 at 11:05 AM



“ Terry--So sorry to hear about Jim passing away. I met him when he came to our little country school north of Charles City. Then when I lived in Charles City and Mason City

I saw him again. I called my brother James Becker and let him know as they worked together in Mason City. Will pray for you and your family. God Bless you all.

Marjorie (Becker) Lechner Stonecypher.



“ Terry . . . So sorry to read of Jim's passing. Thinking of you brings back a lot of good White Farm memories. Take care of yourself, and enjoy your family.

Jeanne Blum

Jeanne Blum - February 07 at 11:14 AM



“ Jim and his family touched our lives for many years. The Heitland family send their deepest condolences.

Janis Heitland Garrard - February 07 at 09:22 AM



“ We knew Jim from Country Meadow Place. Thru this devastating disease you could tell he was a character and we grew to love him. We are so sorry for your loss but understand the grand relief for them. He is now at peace and I'm sure he and my dad are sharing stories and their words and thoughts are as clear as ever. Gods blessings to you all.

Renee Tjaden Kramer

Renee Tjaden Kramer - February 07 at 08:39 AM



“ Terry...so sorry to read that Jim passed away but he is at rest now and out of pain...you need to stay strong for the kids...hope that I can see you and visit with you but we won't be to the funeral as Jr still is walking with a walker and only 25% of his heart working so we don't do too much...think of you often and will keep you guys in our prayers...I need to call you and get your correct address... love Mae & Junior Rodamaker

Mae Rodamaker - February 06 at 06:31 PM